

**West Hartford Substance Abuse Prevention Commission (SAPC)**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**June 8, 2017**

**Present:** Joanna Curry-Sartori, Jonathan Merritt, Leo Negron, Helen Drohan, Dave Pauluk, Grace Johnson, Joan Biagioni, Joe Kalache, Nordia Napier, Amal Ali, David Eppner, Mitch Irving, Ben Grippo, Jaclyn Dulude

**Absent:** Jean Schensul, Kim Ambroise, Ed D’Adio, Sagar Patal, Chastity Rodriguez, Gretchen Nelson

**Public:**

**Welcome / Introductions / Approve Minutes / Early Departures/ Announcements**

- Motion to approve minutes was passed.

**Introductions:** • Introduced Jonathan Merritt, Youth Counselor and Director of West Hartford Teen Center at the Bridge Family Center.

**Announcements:** • Joanna Curry-Sartori will be stepping down as SAPC coordinator for the Bridge Family Center.

- CASAC Funding: John Mancini was approved by Andy Morrow for “Fight the New Drug” at Hall High School.

- Chris Harren speaking engagement was paid.

- “Lead by Example” also funded.

- Funding will remain the same for fall 2017.

**New Business:** • Motion to appoint Jonathan Merritt as new SAPC coordinator passed.

- ICR Project updates were presented by Mitch Irving (powerpoint).

- Broke off for 30 minutes into 3 subgroups based on previous ICR presentation:

1. **Communication**
2. **Innovation**
3. **Evidence-Based Intervention**

- Met back as a whole group, and discussed recommendations for town council, and decided on three:

1. **The town of West Hartford needs a marketing and communication partner to design and strategize a public information campaign regarding the prevention of non-medical use of Rx drugs and alcohol.**
2. **The town of West Hartford needs a permanent, visible location for a drop box for the safe and proper disposal of unused/unneeded Rx drugs.**
3. **The town of West Hartford needs a Town Panel to organize, direct, and focus the questions, concerns, and dialogue regarding substance abuse in our community.**

- Joanna Curry-Sartori refocused the goals of the SAPC: To stay “big picture”; we are not here to implement, but to advise town council.

- Motion to send SAPC chair to town council to make the above recommendations based on commission findings passed.

**Adjourn:**

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Merritt

June 15, 2017

